

Minutes
Technical Standards Council
Sunday 18 September 2022
Marriott DFW Westlake and by WebEx

Chairpersons:

Mike Garl; Mike Garl Consulting LLC (presiding)
Alan M. Rowe; I.A.T.S.E. Local 728; P

Recording secretaries:

Karl Ruling and Richard Nix (ESTA)

Attendees:

Keith Sklar; Actors' Equity Association; P
R. Duane Wilson; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; A
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; P
Michael Lay; Candela Controls, Inc; P
Mike Skinner; Contract Services Administration Trust Fund; P
Steve Terry; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.; P
Erin Grabe; ESTA; exf
Todd Spencer; ESTA President; P
Mitch Hefter; Mitch Hefter; P
Bill Sapsis; Sapsis Rigging, Inc.; P
Stephen G. Surratt; Texas Scenic Company; exf
Jerry Gorrell; USITT; P
Justin Bennett; USITT; A
William Gillett; Walt Disney Company; A

Visitors:

Ethan Gilson

1 Opening Remarks

Mike Garl called the meeting to order at 09:02, welcoming everyone to the meeting and thanking everyone for taking time out of their Sunday morning to attend the meeting and to move standards forward. He said that ESTA's Board of Directors had appointed Alan Rowe as the TSC's new co-chair, so he formally introduced Alan, and welcomed him to his new appointment.

2 Attendance and membership

2.1 Taking attendance and introductions

2.2 Welcome to visitors

2.3 Call for quorum

A quorum is eight or more voters present.

2.4 Consensus body

The consensus body, after today's meeting actions, is:

Name	Company or representation	Voting status
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity	P
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Michael Lay	Candela Controls, Inc.	P
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P

Name	Company or representation	Voting status
Mike Skinner	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P
Todd Spencer	ESTA President	P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P
Alan M. Rowe	IATSE Crafts Advancement Program	P
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	P
Justin Bennett	USITT	A
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	P
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	A
	Total votes possible	13

3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

[See TSCmin06-2022_DRAFT.pdf]

Bill Sapsis moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection or abstention.

4 Patent and anti-trust statements

4.1 Reading of the anti-trust statement

Mike Garl read the following statement aloud to the assembly:

ESTA and its members take seriously their obligation to comply with all applicable antitrust laws. Therefore, during this meeting and during all ESTA events, all discussions will be limited to those subjects that are permitted by the antitrust laws. All members should refrain from any discussion or mention of competitively sensitive subjects such as the current or future prices charged for any member product or services, current or future marketing plans or strategies, and current or future costs, including employee salaries. There also must be no agreement on the suppliers or customers that members will or will not do business with or the markets in which members will conduct business.

Violations of the antitrust laws can have serious consequences. If you have any questions or concerns about anything that is discussed at an ESTA meeting, please bring your concern to ESTA management. An easy to read pamphlet describing the antitrust laws is available from the ESTA staff.

Karl Ruling held up the pamphlet for all to see.

4.2 Reading of the call for patents

Mike Garl read the following statement aloud to the assembly:

ESTA intends not to publish any standard that contains protected intellectual property, unless that information can be licensed by anyone for a reasonable fee. ESTA uses a process of open patent and copyright disclosures to implement its intent. ESTA does not conduct patent or copyright searches and does not warrant that its standards contain no protected intellectual property.

In keeping with the open disclosures policy, I ask if anyone present wishes to notify this working group of the existence of a patent, patent application, copyright, or other protected intellectual property that might protect material in a standard being developed by this working group. You need not be the holder of the patent or copyright to notify this working group of its existence.

Nothing was revealed.

5 Approval of agenda

Karl asked to add two items: Use of copyrighted material (7.3.1), and ESTA representation on UL and NFPA committees (7.3.2)

Billy Gillett moved to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection or abstention.

6 Old Business and standing reports

6.1 Financial reports

6.1.1 Treasurer's Report and Status of Contributions and Pledges

Steve Surratt reported that we are way behind on pledges and participation fees. We're about \$100,000 short on the budget at this time.

6.1.2 TSP Fundraising

6.1.3 Accounting of TSP documents sold and downloaded

[See SalesReportforTSC_09-2022.pdf]

There were no questions or discussion.

6.2 Old Business

6.2.1 Technical Standards Program project report

[See TSP Project Status Summary_09-2022.pdf]

There were no questions.

6.2.2 Working group documents for possible action by the TSC

6.2.2.1 First public reviews

6.2.2.1.1 BSR E1.42-202x, Safety Standard for Entertainment Lifts

[see BSR E1-42_202x_SL2022-10011r0.pdf]

The SMWG may approve it for first public review.

Richard Nix reported the working group had approved it for public review. The motion is now before the TSC, Mitch Hefter moved to approve the first public review. The motion was seconded and carried without objection or abstention. A BSR8 will be filed.

6.2.2.1.2 BSR ES1.40-202x, Event Security

[see BSR_ES1.40_202x_ES2022-20009r1.pdf]

The ESWG may approve it for first public review.

Mitch Hefter moved to approve the first public review. The motion was seconded. Mike Lay said he felt the document read more like a recommended practice, than a standard. Karl Ruling said ANSI doesn't care what you call a standard- recommended practice, standard, etc – they are still consensus based and fall into the same category. Mitch Hefter said the draft said uses the word "standard" in many places.

The motion carried without further discussion, and without objection or abstention. A BSR8 will be filed with ANSI.

6.2.2.1.3 OTP

The CPWG may approve this for first public review.

Bill Sapsis moved to approve the first public review. The motion was seconded and carried without objection or abstention.

6.2.2.2 Withdrawals

Karl Ruling reported that ANSI E1.20 had been administratively withdrawn by ANSI, due to missing the 5-year deadline for reaffirmation, revision, or withdrawal. We're not required to remove the ANSI designation from the standard, but it cannot be referred to as a current ANSI Standard.

6.2.2.3 Accept as ANS

6.2.2.3.1 Reaffirmation of ANSI E1.37-1 – 2012 (R202x), Additional Message Sets for ANSI E1.20 (RDM) -- Part 1, Dimmer Message Sets

[see See E1-37-1_PubRevwCmmntSummary.pdf and BSRE1-37-1_Smmry_r1_WG_Ltr_Ballot_Reaffrm.pdf]

The reaffirmation public review returned comments. The letter ballot results were returned with an objection, asking to address the public review comments. The CPWG may resolve these comments at their meeting, in a manner that would approve the reaffirmation.

Mike Lay reported. The CPWG had voted to hold the comments until a later time, after the E1.20 revision is finished. Mike Lay moved to approve the reaffirmation. With the required supermajority of the consensus body was present and voting, the motion was seconded, and carried without objection or abstention. The motion will forward to the Executive Committee.

6.2.2.3.2 BSR E1.6-4 – 202x, Design, Manufacture, and Inspection of Portable Controls for Electric Chain Hoists in the Entertainment Industry

[see Final_Summry_BSR_E1-6-4_RWGballot_AcceptANS.pdf and BSR_E1.6-4-202x_Rig2021-2030r1b.pdf]

Bill Sapsis spoke. He said the TSC had already approved BSR E1.6-5, but it was being held until this is approved, because they are companion documents. He moved to approve the draft as an ANS. The motion was seconded, and carried with twelve "yes" votes, and without objection or abstention. The motion will forward to the Executive Committee.

Karl Ruling sad that the TSC should expect letter ballots soon for the BSR ES1.18 Rigging ANS approval, and for the ANSI E1.35 reaffirmation. The working groups had approved their respective motions.

6.2.2.4 Formation of a new prop weapons safety working group.

From the draft June TSC meeting minutes:

Bill Sapsis moved to form a Weapons Safety in Event Production Working Group. The motion was seconded. The motion carried with one objection.

There was discussion about who would be the chairperson. Ethan Gilson said he had volunteered to co-chair a Weapons Safety working group only as someone who had experience with the standards development process, but said he did not have direct experience with the subject matter. Steve Terry said he would prefer to have someone with direct experience lead this effort. Others agreed.

Bill Sapsis moved that Ethan Gilson be named Chairperson. The motion was seconded. There was discussion, and Mike Garl said he must find a co-chairperson with direct subject matter experience. The motion carried without objection.

Since the last meeting, Steve Vanciel and Mal Boland have both expressed interest in leading the group. Their credentials are impressive: Steve Vanciel has extensive working group leadership experience, and was the weapons master at Disney for many years. Mal Boland is a prop weapons designer and ammunition vendor to many major theme parks. Steve and Mal know one another and have had a good past working relationship with each other. Both were invited to be present at the TSC meeting to answer any questions about how they view moving forward with this action.

Steve Terry moved to approve the appointments of co-chair. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection or abstention.

6.2.2.5 New project requests

6.2.2.5.1 Canadian Electrical Guidelines for Television, Film, Live Performance, and Events

[see Canadian_SPEC-003_ProjectRequest.pdf and ESA_Spec-003_R7.pdf]

The Electrical Power Working Group has approved the project request, with a slight change in scope.

Justin Bennett spoke about the EPWG discussion leading up to the scope revision. The scope only covers Canada. Mitch spoke on the near consensus by our Canadian friends in favor of this project, noting that it was interesting to find the BC contingency in support of this effort, which came out of the CEC and Ontario. There was discussion of antiquated requirements in the CEC.

Mitch Hefter moved to approve the project. The motion was seconded, and there was more discussion.

Mike Skinner asked about the affected stakeholders on the project request, wondering if we needed to put employers, rental companies, and production companies on this list, since it will affect them. Alan Rowe concurred, saying it should be noted that we acknowledge the needs of production. We will add this to the PINS form.

Mike Garl called the question. The motion carried without objection or abstention. A PINS will be filed.

7 New business

7.1 TSC leadership

See the opening remarks.

7.2 P&P revisions

The TSC approved a revision to the P&P at the June meeting. However, Richard Nix has proposed another change to clause 8.3.2.2.2. The existing clause reads,

8.3.2.2.2 Recirculation of letter ballots

If any comments or objections that are relevant to the motion are received during a letter ballot, the comments and objections, attempts at resolution, and any substantive changes shall be delivered to the working group voting members, who then shall have, as determined by the working group chairperson in his or her sole and absolute discretion, either (a) 14 days or (b) until the date of the next working group meeting (but in no event less than 14 days), to consider the motion again in light of the comments or objections.

Voting members who voted may revise or reaffirm their votes, and voting members who did not cast a vote on the initial ballot may cast a vote during this recirculation of the letter ballot.

The existing clause requires a minimum 14-day recirculation when a voter returns a “Yes, with comments”, even if the comment says “Good work!” This creates an unnecessary procedural delay, which can be alleviated if our procedures allow dispensation of such comments without a ballot extension or recirculation. ANSI has clarified that we do not need to consider or recirculate comments returned with a “yes” vote. Therefore, Richard proposes changing the section to read:

8.3.2.2.2 Recirculation of letter ballots

If any ~~comments or objections~~ that are relevant to the motion are received during a letter ballot, there ~~comments and~~ shall be attempts to resolve the objections. All such attempts at resolution, and any substantive changes, shall be recirculated to the working group voting members, who then shall have, as determined by the working group chairperson in his or her sole and absolute discretion, either (a) 14 days or (b) until the date of the next working group meeting (but in no event less than 14 days), to consider the motion again in light of the comments or objections. Voting members who voted may revise or reaffirm their votes, and voting members who did not cast a vote on the initial ballot may cast a vote during this recirculation of the letter ballot. Comments accompanying a “yes” vote shall not be considered as objections, and shall not require recirculation or resolution, but shall be retained until the time their relevant approved standard is reopened for revision, so that retained comments can be considered as part of its revision process.

This change clearly distinguishes “yes, with comments” from objections, thus allowing consideration of “yes with comment” responses as being “Yes” votes – first and foremost – while eliminating requirements for ballot extensions and recirculations. It also allows action to be taken on the comments at a later time, if desired, without delaying the ballot process.

Steve Terry moved to accept the proposed changes. The motion was seconded and carried without objection or abstention. The revised version will be sent to ANSI for approval.

7.3 Other new business

7.3.1 Use of copyrighted material

Karl Ruling explained the email exchange he'd had with Disney about copying text from E1.50. Karl said he thought it would be OK, as long as the standard was given credit. Bill Gillett asked for details, and said he would follow up.

7.3.2 UL and NFPA representation

Karl Ruling reported, soon he will no longer be interested in participating on the many committees, and asked that others be appointed to represent us on those committees. Steve Terry asked Karl to provide a list of all committees he is on, for TSC review.

Jerry Gorrell said he is on NFPA Life Safety 101 and would like to manage the replacements on that committee.

Steve Terry suggested that the TSC should do a first pass on all potential participants to UL and NFPA committees, and then make recommendations.

8 Optional reports

8.1 Optional reports by working and task group leaders on active projects

8.1.1 Control Protocols

Mike Lay reported. 5 new members joined, making 10 new members for the year. 8 task group meetings. 17 new attendees at Plugfest. This is the largest PlugFest to-date.

Erin asked if they would want to do another one in July 2023, or wait until October 2023.

8.1.2 Electrical Power

Mitch Hefter reiterated the new project. Nothing more to report.

8.1.3 Floors

Karl Ruling reported on the comment resolutions for BSR E1.76, Tension Grids.

8.1.4 Fog and Smoke

Karl Ruling reported. The main topic is the ventilation project. The group also talked about the use of water in machines.

8.1.5 Followspot Position

Richard Nix reported, the latest revision E1.28 will go out to letter ballot for acceptance as an ANS.

8.1.6 Photometrics

Jerry Gorrell reported, they have a meeting upcoming on 22 September.

8.1.7 Rigging

Bill Sapsis reported, the main topic of discussion is BSR E1.43, Performer Flying Systems. He said he would like the TSC to pay careful attention to it when it comes out for public review.

8.1.8 Stage machinery

Richard Nix and Karl Ruling reported. There are three active projects, all making progress.

8.1.9 Event Safety

Richard Nix reported that projects continue to make progress, noting that the TSC had approved the Security draft for public review today, and that the working group had approved the Medical draft for its second public review.

Steve Terry asked about the Electrical Safety project. Richard said that he had provided an extensive list of issues to the task group when they had last asked for an informal progress review.

8.2 Reports of affiliated organizations

8.2.1 ASTC

Andy Gibbs reported that there is nothing of significance to report.

8.2.2 Event Safety Alliance

Erin Grabe said that the Event Safety Summit will be held 07-09 November 2023.

8.2.3 NFPA

8.2.3.1 FDW-AAA committee (NFPA 80 fire doors & fire safety curtains)

Jerry Gorrell said that they will meet in the first week of October. Dan Culhane is also on that committee.

8.2.3.2 SPE-AAA (NFPA 160 & 1126, flame and pyrotechnics)

Nothing to report.

8.2.3.3 SAF-AXM & BLD (assembly occupancies. NFPA 101, 102, & 5000)

Jerry Gorrell reported, they've just finished their cycle, it will be a few more years before there's any more action.

8.2.3.4 NEC (NFPA 70)

Mitch Hefter reported that it is now live, online. The print version is anticipated in October. As noted several times before, the definitions have all been moved to the front of the code. "It's gloom and doom."

Steve Terry reported that Alan Rowe and he had written a Protocol article.

8.2.3.5 NFPA 70E

Jerry Gorrell said they are in the middle of a revision cycle, and he thinks they are just rearranging sections. Mike Skinner asked if the definitions will be moved to the front. Jerry said he didn't know for sure, but that will probably be the case.

8.2.4 USITT

Mitch Hefter reported. The executive search committee has retained a consultant to continue the search, and work is on-going to bring the committee structure in line to match the new bylaws.

8.2.5 ICC

Richard Nix reported. The ICC is currently meeting in Louisville KY for final code hearings, regarding the code change proposal that had been discussed at previous meetings. The primary proponent for the code change is now also on our E1.21 task group. The code change will probably be approved, and E1.21 studies have shown it will have little impact on us moving forward.

8.2.6 IES

Mitch Hefter reported that he is now the chair of the IES Lighting Control Systems Committee.

IES LP-16 Lighting Practice – Documenting Control Intent Narratives and Sequence of Operation has been published as an ANSI standard.

The IES Lighting Control Systems Committee is working on updating LP-6-2020 – Lighting Control Systems – Properties, Selection, and Specification.

The Commissioning Committee is working on an update to LP-8-2020 – The Commissioning Process Applied to Lighting and Control Systems.

8.2.7 UL

No report.

8.2.8 ASSP

Jerry Gorrell reported. Aside from new leadership, there is nothing more to report.

9 Other business and announcements

9.1 Above & Beyond Awards

Information on the Above & Beyond Awards may be found at http://tsp.esta.org/tsp/news/award_recipients.html.

9.2 Lifetime Technical Achievement Award

9.3 Volunteer of the Year Award

9.4 Swan Award

10 Schedule for future meetings

The meeting schedule is posted at <http://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings.php>.

The Winter 2023 meetings will be WebEx only. April 2023 NAMM; Summer 2023 July Westlake TBC; Fall 2023 October 2023 Westlake.

11 Adjournment

The agenda business being completed, there being no further business brought forth, Mike Garl declared the meeting adjourned at 10:25.

Technical Standards Council members

Name	Status	Representing
Matthew Antonucci	A	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund
Justin Bennett	A	USITT
Harry Box	O	PERG
Mike Garl	P	Mike Garl Consulting LLC
William Gillett	A	Walt Disney Company
Jerry Gorrell	P	USITT
Mitch Hefter	P	Mitch Hefter
Edwin S. Kramer	P	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1
Michael Lay	P	Candela Controls, Inc
David E. Miller	P	Walt Disney Company
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.	P	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants
Eddie Raymond	O	IATSE Local 16
Alan M. Rowe	P	I.A.T.S.E. Local 728
Bill Sapsis	P	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.
Mike Skinner	P	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund
Keith Sklar	P	Actors' Equity Association
Todd Spencer	P	ESTA President
Steve Terry	P	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.
R. Duane Wilson	A	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants